recommended by the Mehrotra Committee of the U.G.C. ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L. P. SHAHI) : (a) and (b) The Scheme of revision of pay scales has to be implemented by the State Governments in respect of all the universities whose maintenance expenditure is met by them. According to information available so far, the State Governments which have decided to implement the scheme are : Andhra Pradesh, Aru-nachal Pradesh, Assam, Goa, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, J. & K, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Tripura and Uitar Pradesh.

The implementation of the scheme is reported to be under consideration by the State Governments of Bihar, Sikkim and West Bengal. Only the Govt, of Kerala is yet to convey its decision about the implementation of the scheme. The scheme has also been implemented by all the Central Universities.]

Abolition of Octroi duty

123. SHRI A. G. KULKARNI :
DR. BAPU KALDATE :
SHRI VISHWASRAO RAMRAO PATIL :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) what is the latest position as to the number of States which have abolished the octroi duty and whether the Central Government have persuaded other States to abolish octroi duty to facilitate the inter-state trade and with what results ;

(b) whether Government propose to call the various States which have not abolished octroi duty and work out time-bound solution to abolish the octroi duty ; and

(c) whether Government have received complaints about corruption in octroi collection by Municipal bodies and police connected with the transport department, and if so, what steps have been taken to stop the abuse ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RA-JESH PILOT) : (a) and (b) As of date, there is no octroi levied in 18 States/Union Territories. As for the remaining States, the Central Government have been impressing on them, through discussions at forums like Transport Development Council as also through communications, to take steps to abolish octroi system expeditiously. Since the main question raised in this connection had been the finding of alternate source of revenue for financing local bodies, methods of sur-charge on sales tax or Entry Tax were suggested for their consideration. The concerned State Governments have been examining the matter. The subject matter is again proposed for discussion with the States.

(c) There have been general complaints about malpractices in octroi collection at check posts. Octroi is **a** State subject and specific complaints if any, are looked into by the concerned local authorities.

National Highway in Andhra Pradesh

124. DR. G. VIJAYA MOHAN REDDY : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the National Highways taken up during the Seventh Plan period in Andhra Pradesh ;

(b) what are the other proposals pending with Government of India as submitted by Government of Andhra Pradesh; and